

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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Shelton Man Spends Birthday in Jail

Justin Shrum, 26 year-old of Shelton, Washington was arrested for attempting to meet a 13-year-old girl for sexual purposes. Shrum is a registered sex offender and has a prior criminal history.

On October 3, 2006, the Washington State Patrol's Missing & Exploited Children Task Force was conducting an online proactive investigation when Shrum allegedly started a sexual conversation with an undercover WSP detective. Shrum believed he was chatting with a 13-year-old girl and called the undercover detective on the telephone several times. During the conversations, Shrum said he wanted to meet the girl then take her to the movies.

Shrum arrived at the Westfield Mall in Olympia, Washington at the agreed upon time. Instead of meeting the 13-year-old girl, he was met by members of the Washington State Patrol and the Missing and Exploited Children Task Force. Shrum was booked into the Thurston County jail for: "Communication with minor for immoral purposes" (9A.68A.090), "Attempted Rape of a Child 2nd degree" (9A.44.076), and "Attempted Kidnapping in the 1st degree" (9A.40.020).

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The Missing and Exploited Children Task Force is a multi-agency task force that assists law enforcement, state and federal agencies, and the proper custodial parent(s) or guardian(s) by conducting investigations on missing, abducted, and exploited children. For more information about the task force, please contact Sergeant Dan Sharp at (360) 704-2390 or visit www.wsp.wa.gov/missing/ourkids.htm